

# Materials for Rearing 100 Galerucella Beetles



This is an exhaustive list and you may not need, or need to purchase, all items. Some may be available for free from the WPLBCP (those indicated with an asterisk \*) or elsewhere (such as pots from landscape businesses or buckets [that need holes drilled] from school lunch programs).

# **GETTING READY AND COLLECTING ROOTS**

- 1. Wetland plant identification book(s) (see Appendix 9)
- 2. Map(s) to location of loosestrife roots and beetle release sites—Use a good local map after consulting the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission's web site at **www.glifwc-maps.org** (see Appendix 1 for instructions on using the site)
- 3. Colored flagging in a roll or on metal stakes
- 4. Filled out, signed, copied, and mailed Wisconsin DNR permit letter (see Appendix 4)
- 5. Shovel or fork for digging and cutting roots
- 6. Plastic tubs (Rubbermaid® type) or plastic bags for hauling roots and waste
- 7. Pruning shears to cut off old dead stem tops and root tips, if necessary
- 8. Gloves, eye protection, rubber boots, and old clothes

### **POTTING ROOTS**

- 9. 12-15 large purple loosestrife roots from a local wetland
- 10. 12-15 plastic pots, 10-14 in diameter \*
- 11. About 2.5 cubic feet of high peat content potting soil (Fafard or a similar mix) \*
- 12. 1 lb. fertilizer, slow release type like Osmocote 18-6-12, unless in the soil \*
- 13. Hose and water source for rinsing roots, wetting soil, and filling pools
- 14. Two 4-foot child's wading pools, one 5-foot pool, or other suitable containers \*

# POOL SET-UP AND PLANT CARE

- 15. 24 yd. of 48 + in wide, no-see-um insect netting, thread, and sewing machine to make 11 net sleeve cages about 78 in long. Fold each piece of fabric along its short side and sew down the open 78-in seam, tapering the cage at one end to match the diameter of your pots. \*
- 16. Duct tape (and perhaps bungi type cords) to attach cages firmly to pots \*
- 17. Wire or string to tie cage tops shut and to supports; also for guy wires
- 18. 4 x 8 foot space in full sun or at south facing windows
- 19. 7-foot high cage support system for suspending net cages—clotheslines or conduit posts or a design of your own!
- 20. Dependable watering system

# **RAISING BEETLES**

- 21. 100 + over-wintered beetles from the WPLBCP, field collected, or from other suppliers (see Appendix 4) \*
- 22. Aspirator for catching and moving beetles \*

# RELEASING BEETLES AND FOLLOW-UP

- 23. Heavy-duty transportation for taking potted plants into the field.
- 24. Site release form (filled out and mailed to the WPLBCP on the day of release)
- 25. 3-11 PVC posts—for marking release site and photo point
- 26. Camera and film





# **Appendix 3.**

### **OUTLETS FOR HARD TO FIND MATERIALS AND VIDEOS**

Beetles for rearing or field release in July-August (Call for details):

- Cornell University, (607) 275-3786 (from New York State minimum # to order)
- Beetles Unlimited, (608) 831-5601 (from Wisconsin no minimums)

Insect netting (need approximately 78 inches of fabric/cage) (WPLBCP supplies free with 3 year rearing):

Venture Textiles
 115 Messina Drive
 Baintree, MA 02185
 (781) 794-1400

56 inches of white or slate; 500 yd. bolt \$1.10/yard; lesser yardage is \$1.10/yard plus \$10 cut charge

# Miscellaneous other supplies:

Aspirators (a small jar with hoses for collecting/moving beetles; about \$7)

BioQuip
 17803 La Salle Avenue
 Gardena, CA 90248
 (310) 324-0620
 fax: (310) 324-7931



# Videos:

- "Restoring the Balance: Biological Control of Purple Loosestrife" a summary of the problem, traditional and biological solutions and biological control safety.
- "Rearing of Biological Control Agents for Purple Loosestrife" more rearing details. \$25 each (but volume discounts apply).
- Resource Center
  7 Business & Technology Park
  Cornell University
  Ithaca, NY 14850
  (607) 255-7660, ext. 2090
  Fax: (607) 255-9946

(Your local and school libraries can also get these on inter-library loan from the Wisconsin DNR library in Madison for free!)